

MEMO

NEW JERSEY STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

TO Vince Krisak and File *MP* *[Signature]* DATE March 12, 1985
 FROM Mike Proietti through Bruce Comfort
 SUBJECT Cornell Dubellier - New Market Road & Hamilton Blvd.
South Plainfield DWM #84-11-30-03C

178818

November 30, 1984

Charles Grimm, a former employee of Federal Pacific Electric called to report that F.P.E. bought the Cornell Dubellier Company years ago and since have been abandoned for many years. The lot behind this abandoned company was saturated with transformer oil. It was dumped at this site during the 1950's and 1960's along with the possibility of electric transformer burial. The site is now known as Hamilton Industrial Park with many different companies occupying the existing buildings.

December 5, 1984

1145 hrs. - I spoke with Laszlo Szabo (Middlesex County Health Dept.) to verify locations of said company. He reported that the Cornell Dubellier company moved out of the area 20+ years ago. They were in the business of testing transformer oils at this facility and allegedly discarded them to the rear of the property near a swampy area. Mr. Szabo said he would have one of his inspectors check the site out.

December 19, 1984

1036 hrs. - I called MCHD and was referred to Mr. Hershey at the Middlesex County Environmental Commission. I could not contact him. I then called Mr. Grimm to procure any additional information on the C.D. site. He explained that F.P.E. bought C.D. and was running a similar operation here. The whole rear of the property was saturated with PCB contaminated transformer oil and he believes that some transformers were also buried there. He got his information from former employees of Cornell Dubellier.

December 26, 1984

1140 hrs. - Mr. Hershey called regarding C.D. He said he was not familiar with it but took all of the information and will brief Dennis Malinowski on it so a meeting could be arranged.

1610 hrs. - Donna Ostman, South Plainfield H.D. (201-754-9000 Ext. 32), called and was assigned the case. She was out to the site and reported that the soil appeared unnaturally dark but was not able to determine if there was any transformer burial. She said a lot of the site was a swampy area and was rather inaccessible. She added that the company closed in the late 1950's and that other businesses were occupying the site. I told her I would call before setting up the investigation.

Attachment B
pg 1

1615 hrs. - Dennis Malinowski called and wanted to know what tests we would perform to determine contamination. I told him that a visual inspection would be done first. I would determine the property owner and request that he take soil samples in the alleged contaminated area. Perhaps a water sample should be taken in the swamp area to delineate full scope of contamination.

January 4, 1985

1000 hrs. - I arrived at New Market Road and Hamilton Blvd. location to a large group of buildings with a sign, Hamilton Industrial Park. I took down two phone numbers which indicated they belonged to the owner. I met with Donna Ostman from South Plainfield H.D. and proceeded to the rear of the property behind the various companies occupying the buildings on site. At the rear of this property is a large vacant field, roughly 2-3 acres which is being unused. An area of approx. 100' X 100' next to the parking areas access road was found to contain very dark, almost black soil. This, according to Donna Ostman is unnatural to this area. In digging down 2" to 4" this soil remained the same color and consistency. There was also much demolition debris and solid waste debris partially buried back here. It appears that the grade of this area has been increased dramatically from the original with the filling in of earth and the debris. In continuing to the far corner of the field area there is a swamp area which is roughly 5'- 8' lower than the large portion of the empty field. This may have been closer to the original grade of the property before the foreign material was moved here. The on site superintendent was found out to be a Steve Bushel but he was not in. We proceeded to inspect other areas on the site and found unlabeled drums with small amounts of oil in them. The tenant approached us and I told him not to have these unlabeled, uncovered drums stored to the rear of the property. He immediately proceeded to have a truck and cleaned them up. I then explained to him what I was here for and he said he would let Mr. Bushel know when he sees him. Some of the other activities occupying this complex are: a brake lining grinding company, a beauty and cosmetic products company, Tire Warehouse, machine shop, excavation contractor, paper company. I will be notifying the owner by phone and ask him to take a soil sample for PCB transformer oil content. Also, there was no sign of spillage or contamination being caused by the existing companies occupying the Hamilton Industrial Park.

January 11, 1985

1011 hrs. - Called Steve Bushel (201-589-4200) Not in. Will return call: X (201-753-4004).

February 4, 1985

Spot checked site while in area. No evidence of any dumping or unusual activity. Arrived 1045. Reported 1100.

March 12, 1985

Will be contacting Steve Bushel regarding soil sampling.